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Acid Diethylamide (LSD-25)

D-Lysergic Acid Diothylamide (LSD-25)

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Although the effects of ergot have been known and experienced by

lysergic acid, was not discovered until 1934. The LSD effect on the mind was not observed until 1943. LSD produces a wide range of -pharmacological physiological and psychophysiological reactions in both h. 5. 6

man and animals.

many countries down through recorded history, the parent compound,

Some of the more outstanding effects are the mental confusion, helplessness and extreme anxiety which are produced by minute doses of 5, 7 this substance. Based upon these reactions, its potential use by enemy nations in offensive psychological warfare and in interrogation is considerable and it may become one of their most important psychochemical agents. To date there is no known antidote.

Great interest in ergot has been shown by the Soviet bloc countries. Due to low potency of the ergot collected in East German rye fields, Nothes and co-workers have undertaken the cultivation of selected strains of ergot and the artificial infection of both rye and 9 barley.

The manufacture of lysergic acid is controlled by SANCOZ Ltd.

of Switzerland to whom the patent was issued. This company until

recently had a virtual monopoly on the purchase of ergot grown in the

United States. In the United States considerable interest has been

- corles -

aroused in psychochemical agents and particularly in lysergic acid for use in psychiatric hospitals. Admixtures containing lysergic acid diethylamide other than with barbiturates to shorten the period of apprehension have apparently not been tried. The biosynthesis of d-lysergic acid diethylamide has not been attempted in this country as far as we know.

Probably the greatest difficulty in the effective exploitation of lysergic acid and its derivatives is the difficulty in extrapolating experimental animal data back to humans in order to predict results.

Although some of the research workers are known to be reluctant to use this compound for clinical research, some research on the material has 12-14 been clinically evaluated and recorded both in Boston and New York.

SUMMARY

- D-Lysergic Acid Diethylamide is a psychochemical agent of considerable potential value as a strategic agent.
- The Soviet Union has shown great interest in it and has procured considerable quantities of it.
- The SANDCZ Ltd of Switzerland is the major manufacturer of this substance.
- Research on psychological studies with this agent is going on in this country.
- 5. The synthesis of this compound is long and difficult, and 15 stages occur in the organic synthesis. The yield of this material is known to be very low when obtained through partial synthesis from ergot.



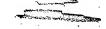
- 6. No biosynthesis is being undertaken in this country.
- 7. Some clinical data are available on its use both in this country
 - -- and in Europe.

APPENDIX A

Scleeted LSD References

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APPENDIX B

Life Cycle of Errot

- a. Head of rye with prominent hardened, dark-red fungus bodies ergot
- b. Sprouting ergot with several stalked globular heads
- c. Flask-shaped cavities imbedded in the surface of a single head
- d. Single cavity with numerous tube-like sexual sacs or asci
- e. Filiform ascspores in closed and opened sacs
- Single assspores, capable of infecting rye flowers, forming a mycelium therein
- g. Mycelium, spreading in the grain tissue, forming bead-like, asexual spores (conidia) for further infections